

Ilkley Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER

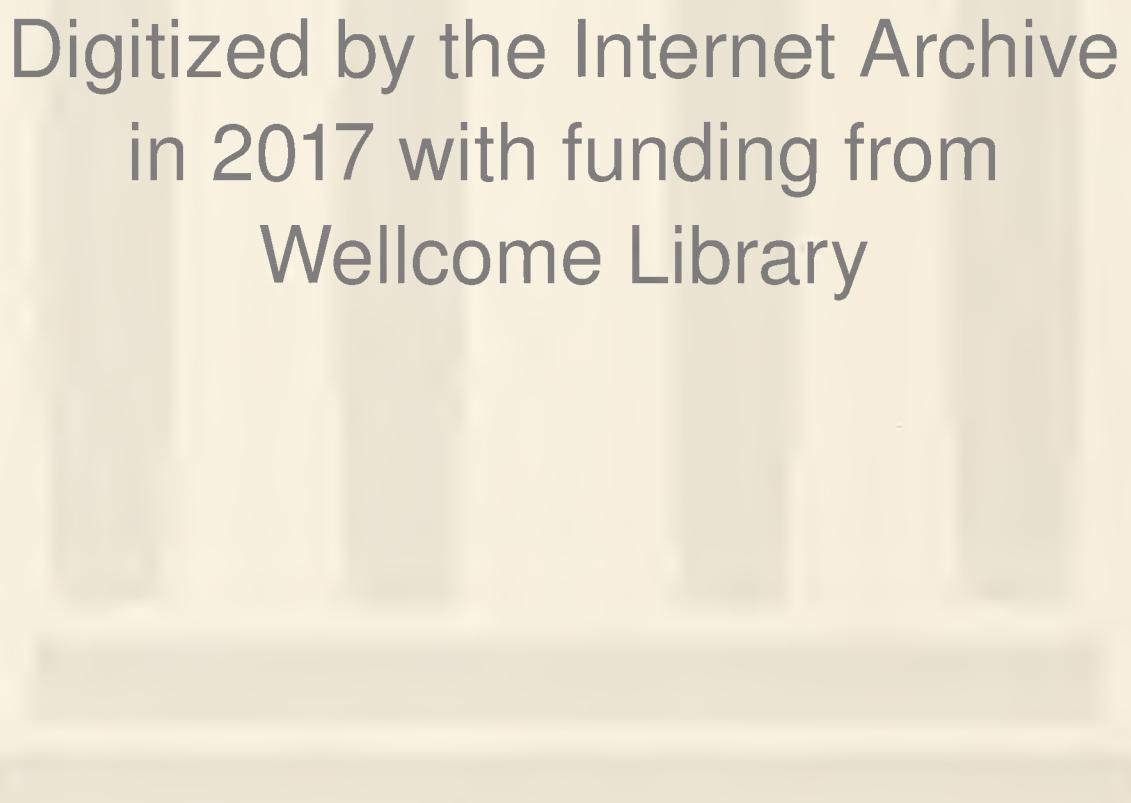
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FOR THE YEAR

1914

Ilkley : Printed by Hemsley & Sons, Station Road
1915



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ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

To the Chairman and Members of the Ilkley Urban
District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present for your consideration a Report on the public health and sanitary condition of the Urban District of Ilkley for the year 1914.

The terrible European War which is now raging has had important relations to the character and health of our population. After a beautiful summer which gave abundant evidence of great and increasing prosperity, this great calamity came upon us at the beginning of August, thus causing great damage and loss to our season which had just commenced.

For some time past the material prosperity of the township had continued to increase. There had been a great demand for houses, especially of the better kind, and very few residences of that description are vacant. The remarkable natural advantages and beauty of the district continues to attract large numbers of visitors who in many cases return year after year, thus showing the high opinion they have of its health-giving qualities. As a health resort its reputation rests on the sure foundation of intrinsic merit, the importance of which cannot be over estimated.

Although for the year under review the death rate has been higher than in some former years, the average rate for the last 5 years has been no more than 9·6 per 1000 per annum. Such a low death rate extending over a term of years is ample evidence of the advantages the district can offer as a place of residence.

In common with the rest of the County, Ilkley suffered from a very severe epidemic of Measles during the early months of the

year. Outbreaks of this disease usually occur at intervals of 7 or 8 years, but it is very many years since an epidemic of any great extent has occurred, so that there were great numbers of children in our midst who had never been protected by a previous attack and thus the cases were very numerous.

A fact of great significance in the present report is the remarkably low birth rate for the period under review. This is the first year of which there is any record in which the total number of deaths is greater than that of births. The importance of this great diminution in the number of children born is emphasized at the present time by the awful wastage of human life as the result of war, and must have important and far reaching consequences on the future development of the race.

The character and health of our own township has undergone great changes during the latter part of the year. A large number of our young men, all healthy and robust, have gone to serve their Country and in exchange we have given our hospitality to many Belgian Refugees, who from the great hardships they had suffered were often in bad health and low condition. A second epidemic of Measles was due to this cause and in addition cases of other infectious illness have resulted from their presence.

An important change in sanitary administration has taken place during the year in the substitution of Bins for Ash-pits. This improvement will result in greater uniformity in the disposal of refuse and will, it is hoped cause great satisfaction.

Great efforts were made by the Sanitary Authority to enable them to enforce the conversion of "Tipper" closets into modern closets. It was unfortunately found to be impossible to obtain legal powers to effect this improvement, and for the present we can only induce owners of property by persuasion to make the alteration wherever possible.

I. Physical Features and General Character of the District.
"Ilkley is situated on the banks of the River Wharfe. The valley in the immediate vicinity of Ilkley is closed in on three sides by hills. On the North and Westwards, they are gently undulating and park-like; on the South, their rough and rocky slopes are crowned with precipitous escarpments, which form their summit. The slopes of the hills on either side of the valley descend to a level portion rarely more than half a mile in width, along which flows the beautiful river Wharfe. The slopes bounding the valley on either side are deeply cut by streams descending from the hills above. The sides of the streams are in most cases thickly grown with trees. South of the Wharfe, the hillside beneath the great escarpment of grit-rock, is in great part covered with masses of

stones, which have fallen from the superincumbent rocks. From the summit of the Ilkley grit escarpment, which is 1000 to 1100 feet above sea level, there extends successive plateaux of moorland, the surface of which is composed of sandstones with intermediate beds of shale rising in tiers to a height of 1323 feet.

The surface of Rombald Moor, where not absolutely bare rock, is covered with heather, grass, or bog-moss, the decay of which produces peat. The moors serve for the pasturage of sheep, and the breeding and rearing of grouse and other game, and constitutes an ideal rambling ground for those in quest of the renewal of health. Ilkley has always been famous for its delightful situation, the picturesque beauty of its surroundings, its health-restoring springs of pure and mineral waters, and the cheerful invigorating effects of its atmosphere. From early British times to the present there has been no period when the town was not."

Social Conditions. The population of the district is mainly residential, and consists of the "well-to-do" and those who supply their needs, such as domestic servants, gardeners, and tradesmen. The building trade employs a considerable number. In the summer the wants of visitors provide work. There are several large hotels and hydropathic establishments. The Coronation Cottage Hospital provides gratuitous medical relief to the poorer patients, those who are able to afford to do so, pay according to their ability. The amount of outdoor Poor Law relief was £251 16s. 8d. for the year. There are three convalescent homes.

2. The House Accommodation, especially for the working classes, is both adequate and good. The supervision over erection of new houses is strict, both with regard to sanitary requirements and accommodation.

The number of cottages for the working classes exceeds the demand. There is no evidence of overcrowding.

The number of houses inspected as required by Article V of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, was 177. A tabulated statement is inserted (*v. infra*) along with the report of the Inspector of Nuisances.

3. All Plans of Proposed New Buildings or alterations of existing buildings, have to be submitted to the Sanitary and Building Committee, and are critically examined by the Surveyor and Inspector before being passed, as to their compliance with our byelaws. New and up-to-date Building byelaws have recently been adopted by the Council and confirmed by the Local Government Board.

4. The System of Sewage Disposal is by means of filter beds, the sewage being chemically treated by Alumino-Ferric, before

reaching the river; and after many years experience has proved quite satisfactory.

The water supply being abundant there is no difficulty in flushing the sewers. No complaints have been made of any nuisance arising therefrom.

After filtration the sewage effluent is discharged into the River Wharfe, which carries a large stock of fish, trout, grayling, &c. The excellence of the fishing attracts a large number of anglers, and is a proof that the effluent has no harmful effect on the fish. The various streams flowing into the river are clean and unpolluted.

Two circular bacteria filters (80 ft. diameter), with rotary distributors, which were constructed the previous year, have proved quite satisfactory. These are to take the night flow at the Ilkley Sewage Works.

5. Excrement Disposal is by means of water closets and slop water closets. The latter, I am persuaded, are a danger to health, and closely associated with outbreaks of diphtheria, and possibly scarlet fever.

The number of water-closets is 2,393, slop closets or "tippers" 455, privies 9.

Every opportunity that occurs of converting these slop closets or "tippers" into water closets is taken advantage of by the Sanitary Authority, and result in a great many having now been altered to suit modern requirements.

6. The Removal and Disposal of House Refuse is carried out systematically by the Council's servants, and taken to the Destructor, a satisfactory solution of a problem that was increasing in difficulty.

For some years past the Sanitary Authority has been carrying out the policy of replacing ashpits by ash-bins. At the beginning of the year there were 400 ashpits still remaining, and to secure uniformity in emptying, the whole of these ashpits were replaced by ash-bins. These bins are now emptied regularly once a week or oftener where required.

7. The Water Supply of the district is derived from the moorlands, and is excellent in quality. There are five reservoirs situated from 1,000 to 500 feet above the sea level, having a

capacity of 8,562,000 gallons, fed from 24 springs of exceptional purity. The average daily supply is 350,000 gallons.

Name of Reservoir.	Capacity.	Height.	No. of houses supplied.	Population supplied.
Ghyll Head	187,000 gals.	951 feet	68	300
Weary Hill	40,000 ,,	957 ,,	38	162
Hill top	160,000 ,,	620 ,,	711	3010
Old	75,000 ,,	520 ,,	1066	4520
Panorama	8,100,000 ,,	821 ,,		

The surplus water from the higher reservoirs overflows into the lower. The Panorama reservoir is not used except in times of drought. The supply is ample and constant.

Principal Springs with their summer and winter yield per 24 hours (old waterworks):—

		Summer.	Winter.
Ilkley Wells Springs	...	39,660	110,800 gals.
Crag Stream	...	25,800	105,100 ,,
Two Streams from Sylvius Peat Hole		1,436	56,000 ,,
Weary Hill and Graining's Head Springs	40,800		77,500 ,,
Barmishaw Springs	...	34,230	50,000 ,,
		141,926	399,400

The Relative degrees of hardness of the following Springs, according to Dr. Clark's method, gave the subjoined result when tested:—

	Degrees of Hardness
Ilkley Wells ...	7
Barmishaw ...	6
Springs flowing into Crag Tarn	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Willy Hall's Spout ...	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Springs flowing from Graining's Head	$\frac{3}{4}$
Backstone Beck ...	2

The Chemical Analysis of the Ilkley Wells and Barmishaw Springs is as under:—

	Ilkley Wells Grains per gal.	Lesser Barmishaw Grains per gal.	Greater Barmishaw Grains per gal.
Sulphate of Soda	2.939	2.824	2.204
Sulphate of Lime	—	0.621	—
Chloride of Calcium	0.572	1.145	1.670
Carbonate of Lime	2.185	—	2.248
Free Carbonic Acid	6.581	6.705	2.862
Silica	1.200	—	—
Chloride of Magnesium	—	0.221	—
Chloride of Sodium	0.501	—	1.186
Solid Matter	10.796	5.500	7.308

The following analysis by Mr. B. A. Burrell, F.I.C., of Leeds, appeared in the "Chemical News" of December 19th, 1913, and by the courtesy of the writer I am able to include it in the present report.

"Modern Ilkley occupies the site of the Brigantian stronghold of Llecan, which subsequently became the Roman station of Olicana.

" "Ichley Fountaine" has been in repute for bathing for about two centuries, a small bath-house having been built in 1699 ("White's Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire," 1838, vol. ii, p. 511). Hearne's edition of Leland's Itinerary contains a letter written by Dr. Richardson in 1709 stating—"Ilkley . . . chiefly famous for a cold well, which has done very remarkable cures in scrofulous cases by bathing, and in drinking of it."

"For several years past the writer has taken samples of the water from the pipe used for filling the Roman bath at the White Wells, the height of which is about 660 feet above sea-level. The water issues from the middle or third grits of the millstone grit series. Variations in temperature are very slight. The following readings selected from those made on ten different occasions show the extreme variations ;—

Temperature of air (shade)	Temperature of water
16·9 deg. C.	8·8 deg. C.
9·4 deg. C.	7·7 deg. C.

"The water is clear and free from sediment. The general procedure was that recommended by Fresenius, and all numbers given are the mean of at least two, and generally of three or four determinations. For substances present in minute quantity the residues obtained by the evaporation of from 45 to 50 litres of water were used. With such quantities neither bromine, iodine, barium, or strontium could be detected. International Atomic Weights, 1912, were used for the calculations.

"The constituents are as follow—

		Grms. per litre.	Grains per gal.
SiO ₂	...	0.0152	1.0641
SO ₄	...	0.0176	1.2368
N ₂ O ₅	...	0.0001	0.0093
Nitrous Acid	...	None	None
P ₂ O ₅	...	Trace	Trace
Cl	...	0.0110	0.7700
Fe	...	0.00016	0.0112
Al	...	Trace	Trace
Ca	...	0.0169	1.1866
Mg	...	0.0090	0.6307
Na	...	0.0119	0.8331
K	...	0.00125	0.0876
Li	...	0.00019	0.0136
Free ammonia	...		0.0011
Albuminoid ammonia			0.0020
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 26.6 deg. C.			0.0016

"Taking into account the composition of the filtered boiled water, the acids and bases may be combined as follows, the numbers being in grains per gallon :—

Ferric oxide, Fe ₂ O ₃	...	0.0159 (a)
Calcium carbonate, CaCO ₃	...	0.8078
Calcium nitrate, Ca ₂ NO ₃	...	0.0140
Calcium silicate, CaOS O ₂	...	2.0535
Calcium sulphate, CaSO ₄	...	0.5199
Magnesium carbonate, MgCO ₃		1.4235
Magnesium sulphate, MgSO ₄		1.0900
Potassium carbonate, K ₂ CO ₃		0.1548
Sodium carbonate, Na ₂ CO ₃	...	0.8726
Sodium chloride, NaCl	...	1.1550
Lithium chloride, LiCl	...	0.0831
		8.1901

Total solid constituents dried at 173 deg. C., 8.295

(a) Ferrous carbonate, 0.0232

8. Places over which the Council has supervision.

THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR is the property of the Council, it is well kept and clean. The Sanitary Inspector visits it daily and reports that he is quite satisfied with the way in which the work is carried out. He has seized and condemned 1 carcase of beef, 1 of sheep, and 3 of pigs, 2 quarters of lamb, 1 tongue, 1 lung, 1 beast head, 2 loins of lamb and 30lb. of fat, all of which were destroyed.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS. With a view of complying with the Council's regulations many milk vendors have erected

suitable buildings for the sanitary storage of milk. I have found the milk vendors anxious to co-operate with the Council in their endeavours to maintain a pure milk supply. As some of our milk comes from outside our jurisdiction, we rely upon our neighbouring Sanitary Authorities exercising the same vigilant supervision over the dairies as we do ourselves, otherwise the chain of control is incomplete. Also if consumers are not fastidiously particular as to cleanliness of vessels in which the milk is received, and where it is kept, free from dust and flies, our labour to provide sweet milk will be in vain. There are 14 cowsheds within the district and 24 purveyors of milk.

Twenty-five samples of milk have been submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 22 of them as "genuine new milk." Three samples were certified as being below "standard." The milk supply of the district is good and no action has been taken as to the sale of tuberculous milk.

The food supply of the district is very good, and no unsound food has been discovered.

The condition of the Public Bakehouses is satisfactory.

No action has been found necessary under "The Sale of Food and Drugs Act."

9. Schools. The accommodation of the Schools is fully adequate and satisfactory.

The Grammar School is rapidly increasing in popularity and is in every way conducted in a manner to conduce to the health of the boys.

The National Schools fully maintain the high standard of former years. The robust and sturdy appearance of the scholars is sufficient evidence of the sanitary state of the Schools.

The New Provided School at Ben Rhydding is increasing in numbers and is in a most healthy position; the sanitary arrangements are perfectly satisfactory.

The Ilkley National Schools were closed for a month from the middle of May to June 15th, on account of measles, one week of this period was the Whitsuntide holiday. The Infants' Department was closed in addition to the above (in which it joined) on two occasions, viz., a fortnight from Feb. 19th, and again for a similar period from June 22nd.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic School was closed in May for the same period as the National Schools.

The Ben Rhydding Council School was closed on May 22nd for three weeks, and again on June 27th for a fortnight, on account of

measles. This School was again closed on October 12th for a month, as the result of a sudden outbreak of scarlet fever.

All the above closures were made at the instance of the Sanitary Authority acting on the advice of the Medical Officer, except the closures in June, which were at the instance of the local Education Authority, for financial reasons.

10. Method of dealing with Infectious Disease is prompt removal to Isolation Hospital whenever rendered necessary by the surroundings of the patient. During the year over 90 per cent. of all cases notified, and which the Hospital is allowed to receive were removed to that Institution.

The houses were all thoroughly disinfected, and contacts warned and watched. My medical confreres loyally co-operate with the sanitary authorities in preventing the spread of infectious disease. Isolation Hospital accommodation is provided by the "Wharfedale Union Joint Isolation Hospital," at Menston, where there is accommodation for fifty-two patients. Four different diseases can be received and treated concurrently.

Owing to the prevalence of Infectious Disease in the area served by the Hospital further accommodation is in course of preparation and will be shortly available for the reception of patients.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population for the year on which the Vital Statistics are based is 8,150.

The deaths registered amounted to 109 including eleven persons who were not permanent residents. Sixteen residents died away from the district, so that the corrected number of deaths is 114.

The net death rate is 14 per 1000 per annum of the population.

Five deaths occurred in public institutions within and nine outside the district.

Eleven deaths of infants under 1 year were registered, one being the child of Belgian Refugees.

Nineteen persons died between the ages of 1 year and 25. Eleven between 25 and 45 years; 32 between 45 and 65 years; 41 persons attained the age of 65 and upwards. Of these 34 exceeded the age of 70 years, whilst 12 attained the high average age of 86 years. The oldest person was a female who died aged 96 years.

The year has again been remarkable, as the previous year had been, for the large proportion of deaths of persons who had

reached advanced ages, a quarter of the total number of deaths exceeding the allotted duration of human life.

The average death rate for the last five years has been the low figure of 9·6 per 1000 per annum.

The Infantile Mortality is at the rate of 114·4 per 1000 nett births.

The Zymotic death rate is 0·98 per 1000.

Births. The number of births registered during the year amounted to 96 only, a decrease of 20 as compared with the previous year. Fifty-one boys and 45 girls were born, 4 being illegitimate. The present is the only year, of which there is any record, of the total number of deaths being greater than of births. The Birth Rate is 11·7 per 1000 per annum.

ZYMOTIC OR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of infectious cases notified during the year has been very great, mainly owing to a very severe epidemic of measles, which swept the whole country. The incidence of the disease was so wide-spread and the number of persons so numerous who were affected in neighbouring districts, that there was little hope of escape. A small number of cases occurred in February, and from thence until the end of June the disease was very prevalent. The height of the epidemic was in May, during which month upwards of 200 cases were notified.

The number of cases gradually declined until the first week in July, after which no further cases were notified until the month of October. From the first onset of the disease prompt measures were taken by the Sanitary Authority. The elementary schools were all closed and thoroughly disinfected. The Sunday schools also were closed for several weeks.

A second epidemic of measles took place during the last three months of the year, and could be definitely traced to a party of Belgian refugees. Upwards of 60 of these unfortunate people arrived in Ilkley early in October, and within a few days several of their children developed the disease. Before the true nature of the illness was declared the infection was conveyed to many of our own residents who had been brought into contact with them. This second epidemic was not so severe as that which took place earlier in the year, and was mainly remarkable for the large number of young adults who were attacked; and who unfortunately suffered

from their kind and charitable efforts to help the refugees. One of the Belgian children died of the disease, and three of our own residents.

The total number of cases notified was nearly 600, and without doubt many cases were not brought to the knowledge of the Sanitary Authority.

Considering the virulence of the disease and the number of cases the mortality was exceedingly low, and speaks well for the vigour of constitution of the sufferers and also for the care and attention which made such a low mortality possible.

The total number of cases of scarlet fever notified was 54, and more than one-third of these arose from the fact that a very mild case had escaped recognition and had been allowed to attend school in a desquamating condition. Of these cases only one died, and that was due to the sad fact that the victim, who was a young nurse, had a short time previously been appointed probationer at the Menston Fever Hospital, where she had gone for training. Serious complications caused her death.

A small outbreak of poliomyelitis made its appearance in September; there were four cases, three children and one adult. They were promptly removed to hospital for isolation, and all recovered almost completely.

There were also two cases of diphtheria and one of enteric fever, which was imported from abroad.

Bacteriological Diagnosis of Disease. The Public Health Laboratory of the West Riding County Council continues to render most valuable assistance in confirming the diagnosis of several infectious diseases. It is now a common experience to find evidence of these diseases in persons who are apparently quite healthy, but who at the same time are a source of danger to others.

The following table indicates the value which the medical men of the district attach to bacteriological examinations in all doubtful cases.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL, WAKEFIELD.
Returns showing the number and various kinds of specimens received for examination during the past year.

Ilkley U.D.C. Sanitary District.

Widal's Re-action	...	...	3
Sputa (for tubercle bacilli)	...	...	24
Swabs (for B. diphtheriae)	...	...	15
Urine (B. typhosus)	...	...	1
Urine (B. tuberculous)	...	...	2
Other	...	...	1
			—
			46

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Eleven cases of this disease were notified during the year. There was one death from Tuberculous Meningitis.

In all cases of primary notification of tuberculous disease the premises were visited and inspected by the Medical Officer. Subsequent visits were made where such were necessary. In addition to bacteriological examinations made by the medical man in attendance, the County Council Laboratory was also used for that purpose. The Tuberculosis Officer is in touch with the sanitary authority, and his services are available for the diagnosis and detection of unrecognised cases. Adequate disinfection is carried out by the sanitary authority.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Parts or sections in force : i, ii, iii, iv.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Sections adopted :

Secs. 17, 19, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32, comprised in Part II.

Secs. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 51, comprised in Part III.

Secs. 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, and 67, comprised in Part IV.

Part VI and Part X have been adopted.

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1914.

SPENCE'S GARDENS.

Month	RAINFALL			TEMPERATURE		
	Rainfall Inches	Greatest fall in 24 hours Inches	No. of days with or or more rain received	Max. Deg.	Min. Deg	Mean. Deg
January	2.01	.49	9th	53	26	38.5
February	2.84	.55	22nd	56	28	43.85
March	3.99	.44	31st	60	27	41.6
April	1.2	.30	7th	71	30	48.5
May	1.34	.32	23rd	71	27	50.5
June	2.82	.85	9th	79	34	60.05
July	1.46	.40	16th	85	42	58.6
August	1.12	.25	26th	10	78	61.6
September	1.65	.77	17th	9	78	55.21
October	2.48	.77	26th	11	63	50.13
November	5.76	1.1	11th	21	57	43.48
December	7.86	.91	4th	24	53	39.5
TOTALS ...	34.53			180		49.2
						36
						53

Rainfall in 1914.

SILVERWELL COTTAGE, ILKLEY. 904 feet above sea level.

	Total Depth. Inches	Greatest fall in 24 hours Inches	Date	Rain Days
January	... 2.89	.58	8th	17
February	... 2.74	.59	21st	15
March	... 4.11	.46	5th	26
April	... 1.28	.28	4th	11
May	... 1.40	.28	23rd	14
June	... 2.62	.91	21st	9
July	... 3.25	1.06	1st	14
August	... 2.14	.68	2nd	15
September	... 1.81	.58	16th	11
October	... 2.92	.82	25th	11
November	... 5.92	.78	11th	25
December	... 7.93	.78	3rd	26
	39.01			194

Average Temperature, etc., for Year 1914.

BROOK STREET.

		Max.	Min.	Rainfall	No. of Rain Days
January	...	38.80	31.00	1.86	18
February	...	46.65	33.20	2.48	16
March	...	45.60	32.90	4.39	29
April	...	56.63	37.42	1.08	12
May	...	58.06	39.50	.86	16
June	...	67.32	49.46	2.69	8
July	...	71.32	55.73	2.95	14
August	...	72.27	54.41	1.46	11
September	...	68.52	47.50	1.41	10
October	...	58.07	44.81	1.68	10
November	...	49.20	37.50	8.83	23
December	...	45.41	36.55	7.62	29

Average for Year.

Max. Temperature 56.48, Min. Temperature 41.665, Rainfall 37.31,
No. of Rain Days 196.

The weather conditions taken as a whole have been very good for at least nine months of the year. During the summer and late into the autumn there was an abundance of sunshine and a moderate amount of rain. During the spring the only wet period was during March, when a much needed spell of wet weather restored the balance caused by an unusually dry winter. From the middle of October until the close of the year, rain was almost incessant, and the total amount was over 16 inches falling on 60 wet days. This excessive rainfall during the autumn months raised the amount recorded for the year to 37 inches in Ilkley and 39 on the moor.

The number of rainy days was 196. On only two days in the year did the daily rainfall exceed 1 inch, and they were recorded at Silverwell on July 1st and at Spence's Gardens on Nov. 11th.

The number of frosty nights was below the average.

The mean maximum temperature for the year was 56·48 and the mean minimum 41·66.

The year has been remarkable for its mildness throughout, there has been very little snow and no prolonged frosts. The number of nights on which the temperature fell below the freezing point was again below the average, but two or three keen night frosts in the month of May caused a good deal of damage to vegetation.

I offer my thanks to Mr. Anderton Wilcock of Brook Street, and to Mr. T. C. Gill, Silverwell, for the records which they have kindly permitted me to use. Mr. Edward Gee took the Observations at the Meteorological Station until August, when he left on military service, leaving as his deputy Mr. Walker of the "Gazette" to whom I wish to express my appreciation of his assistance.

To Mr. West (Sanitary Inspector) I acknowledge my indebtedness for his ready help on all occasions.

Attention is called to the circular issued by the Association of Master House Painters to householders, warning them of the danger of not stripping and washing walls before re-papering and colouring. Many obscure cases of outbreaks of infectious disease may be traced to neglect of this sanitary proceeding.

The binding material of most distempers is derived from animal or fish glue, and is a most fruitful medium for the growth of pathogenic germs.

In conclusion, I tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for the careful consideration they have given to every suggestion I have made to them, and also for their unfailing help and assistance in everything that affected the health and welfare of the inhabitants of Ilkley.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. N. RICHARDSON, M.D., M.R.C.S.,

Licentiate in Sanitary Science.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall, Ilkley,

Dec. 31, 1914.

To the Ilkley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for the year, showing the work done under the Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshop Acts, etc., the Council's Bye-laws and Regulations relating to Cowsheds, Drainage, etc.

There have been 1042 nuisances dealt with, 808 have received the attention of the owners, and 234 minor defects, affecting the drainage of private houses, mostly partial stoppages to drains and gullies of a temporary character, when the cost was likely to be small, have been attended to by the Council's workmen.

The following is a summary of sanitary defects remedied during the year :—

Drains stopped or otherwise defective	...	119
Gullies blocked	...	116
Automatic or other water closets blocked	...	84
Water closets refixed	...	78
Sewers blocked or otherwise defective	...	7
Sink and bath waste pipes renewed	...	44
Defective gullies replaced	...	153
Delapidated ashpits repaired or dust-bins provided	...	44
Visits paid to and inspections of cowsheds	...	29
Premises re-drained	...	32
Defective drains found by testing	...	26
Letters calling attention to defects	...	386
Accumulations of manure	...	68
Defective rain water conductors and eaves spouting	...	60
Visits and inspections of burial grounds	...	3
Swill tubs so kept as to be a nuisance	...	2

Waste water closets converted into cistern flushing closets ...	...	...	...	15
House drainage systems tested	...	...	...	67
Yards drained	...	...	...	17
Visits paid to houses where infectious diseases had occurred ...	...	...	...	154
Water in cellars	...	...	...	9
Filthy condition of window areas	...	...	...	12
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	10
Water running to waste	...	...	...	29
Filthy condition of water closets and urinals	...	...	...	6
Filthy condition of cellars	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipes disconnected	...	...	...	20
Back yards paved	...	...	...	43
Unnecessary deposit of liquid filth in ashpits	...	...	...	6
Defective condition of manure pits	...	...	...	5
Filthy condition of dwelling houses	...	...	...	2
Smoke observations taken	...	...	...	6
Warnings issued	...	...	...	2

There have been tested the drainage and sanitary fittings of 67 houses, 26 of which I found defective and 41 satisfactory.

Houses and Town Planning Act, 1909. 177 houses have been inspected under the above Act, and a considerable number of defects and improvements have been effected without having to serve any statutory notice, the owners having done the work when their attention has been called to them. This procedure has resulted in the execution of much necessary work with a minimum of friction, and it is gratifying to find that the owners always shew themselves to be willing to meet me and discuss matters, and improvements of real value are undoubtedly obtained because the necessity for them and the method by which they could be brought about are discussed in a friendly way.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops. There are 14 cowsheds within the district and 24 purveyors of milk, and the former have been inspected during the year and were kept in a cleanly condition and well lime-washed. One cowshed has been partially reconstructed and made to conform to the regulations.

Twenty-five samples of new milk have been submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 22 as "genuine new milk," the other samples being certified as being below the "standard." The vendors were warned in this case.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. The whole of the workshops have been inspected at various times in accordance with the above

Act. These all comply with the regulations and have been kept in a cleanly and satisfactory condition. Upon four occasions I have had to draw the attention of the occupiers of workshops to their premises requiring limewashing; afterwards this was carried out.

Public Abattoir. Daily inspections have been made at the Public Abattoir, and all slaughtering was found to be carried out in a satisfactory manner. During the year I have condemned 1 carcases of beef, 1 of sheep, 3 of pigs, 2 quarters of lamb, 1 tongue, 1 lung, 1 beast head, 2 loins of lamb, 30lbs. of fat, and 20 livers, all of which were destroyed.

Removal of Household Refuse. The sum of £651 10s. 11d. has been expended in the collection and disposal of 4182 loads of household refuse, 4141 loads of which has been destroyed at the Destructor Works, and 41 loads taken to Cocken End and other tips

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HENRY WEST, Assoc. R.S. Inst.,

Sanitary Inspector.

Housing (Inspection of District) REGULATIONS, Sept., 1910.

The number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909	...	177
The number of dwelling houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	0
The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders	...	0
The number of closing orders made	...	0
The number of dwelling houses, the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders	...	69
The number of dwelling houses which after the making of closing orders were put into a fit state for human habitation	...	0

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERRABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Nett		Number		Rate		of Non-residents registered in the District	
		Uncorrected Number	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1909	8500	138	138	16·2	86	10·1	7	8	14
1910	8500	139	139	16·3	67	7·9	3	0	5
1911	8000	106	108	13·5	67	8·4	8	13	9
1912	8050	102	103	12·7	67	8·03	8	12	8
1913	8100	116	116	14·3	82	10·1	8	9	6
1914	8150	96	96	11·7	109	13·3	11	16	11
									114·4
									14

Area of District in acres (land and inland water): 3822

Total population at all ages } At Census,
 Total families or separate occupiers } 1911
 1882 } 1892

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED								Total Cases removed to Hospital	
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years								
		Und. 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up- wards		
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2			2					2	
Scarlet fever	54		8	43	3				52	
Enteric fever	1					1			1	
Poliomyelitis	4			3		1			4	
Measles	581									
Totals	642		8	48	3	2			59	

Isolation Hospital—Wharfedale Union Joint Isolation Hospital, Menston.

TABLE III. Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District								Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institutions in the District	
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and up- wards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes { Certified ...	114	11	7	4	4	4	11	32	41	
Measles	...	4	1	3		1				
Scarlet Fever	1	2			2	2		
Whooping Cough	...	3	1							
Influenza	...	1				1				
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	4								
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	3	1							
Cancer (malignant disease)	...	15				1				
Organic Heart Disease	...	16	2	1		1	2	5	8	1
Bronchitis	...	5	2	1				1	1	3
*Pneumonia (all forms)	...	8	1							
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	1	1							
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	3				1	2			
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	1							2	
Alcoholism	...	2						1		
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	3								
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	3	2							
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	2				1				
Suicide	...	1								
Other Defined Diseases	...	34	2			2		6	10	14
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	4							4	4
Totals	...	114	11	7	4	4	4	11	32	41
										5

Pneumonia 2, Broncho-Pneumonia 6.

TABLE IV.

Infant Mortality.

Ilkley District.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months & under 6 months	6 months & under 9 months	9 months & under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
	Certified.	Uncertified.								
All causes										
Measles						1	1	1
Whooping-Cough	...					1				1
Tuberculous Meningitis	...						1			1
Convulsions	...							1		1
Bronchitis	...				1			1		2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...						1			1
Enteritis	...					1				1
Premature birth	...	1		1						2
Other Causes	...	1								1
Totals	...	2	1	3	1	2	2	3	11	

Nett Births in the year : legitimate 92 ; illegitimate 4.

Nett Deaths during the year of : legitimate infants 11 ; illegitimate infants 0.